

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated September 26, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to as not including the legend "prior art" on Figures 1A-1D and 2. A drawing change is filed herewith to obviate this issue. In addition, new formal drawings are concurrently filed herein.

Claim 84 stands objected to as allegedly failing to further limit the subject matter of the previous claim. In response, claim 83 has been amended to clarify that the display is not part of claim 83.

The informalities noted in claim 86 has also been corrected.

Claims 13-16, 88 and 89 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, this claim has been amended to provide more clear antecedent basis.

Similar changes have been made to claim 88.

Rejections under Section 102

Claims 1-89 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 has been allegedly anticipated by Hussaini's article entitled "Simple Bar

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
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Graph Displays for Control Variables and Alarm Status", henceforth "the Bar Graph document". In response, many of these claims are amended, in order to emphasize their patentable distinctions.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2 therein. Specifically, as amended, claim 1 recites that heights of towers are used to display the parameters, with parameters that are within the nominal range each having a tower with a nominal height, and towers that representing parameters that are outside the nominal range having other than nominal height. This means that as long as the value is within the nominal range, its height does not change.

It is respectfully suggested that this claim is allowable over the cited prior art, for reasons set forth in detail herein. Specifically, the Bar Graph document shows a system which is intended to allow the user to understand the display more easily. The introduction describes the different things that may be seen in a bar graph display. This concludes, on the left paragraph of page 652 with the description that a number of bar graph types have been disclosed in this application.

Page 653, left column, describes that numbers and flashing/alternate may be used to display different conditions. Following that, a number of different parameter types are

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated September 26, 2003

described. Parameter one is the alarm status which displays whether there is an alarm as well as the "current variable level". Since this displays the current variable level even for non-alarmed variables, it is clear that this does not meet the limitations of claim 1 which displays the nominal height when the variable is within the not alarmed range.

Display number 2 is the center error bar graph, and this displays the value of the variable being measured (see page 654, right column).

Display number 3 is the alarm status bar graph, and while this changes color based on the alarm condition, it is apparent from figure 7 that even the non-alarmed parameters have a height related to their values.

Number 4 is the bilevel bar graph, which again shows parameter values being displayed.

Bar graph number 5 shows the level of the parameters including both those in alarm and those not in alarm, again not meeting the limitations of claim 1.

Display number 6 again emphasizes that the amount of change is displayed, and again not only the alarm conditions are displayed.

Display number 7 shows a nonlinear display, but again it displays the parameters, not only the alarms.

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
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Claim 67 enables detecting rate of change and defines that the display displays "only parameters whose absolute value exceeds a first threshold whose rate of change value exceeds a second threshold.

As described above, nothing in the cited prior art teaches or suggests even the first of those two features, showing only parameters whose absolute value exceeds a first threshold. Therefore, claim 67 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom.

Claim 76 should be allowable for similar reasons.

Claim 80 specifies a first form of display which displays "information on values which differ from their nominal value without displaying the absolute values of said parameters". This claim should be allowable for reasons described above. Each of claims 82-89 should each be allowable for similar reasons.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
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present system facilitates that determination by producing towers with heights ONLY for the alarmed parameters.

Claim 4 has been amended into independent form and should be allowable for reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Specifically, claim 4 defines the nominal height for those items which are not outside the nominal range, and a height related to the amount of the alarm for those that are outside the nominal range. This is not in anyway taught or suggested by the cited prior art, and should be additionally allowable thereover. Each of the remaining claims: which depend directly and indirectly from these claims, should be allowable for reasons discussed above, as well as on their own merits.

Claim 29 has been amended in similar ways, and should be allowable for reasons stated above with respect to claim 1. Specifically, there is nothing in the Bar Graph document which in anyway teaches or suggests parameters within the nominal range being displayed with the nominal height as claimed. As described above, this enables parameters which are within a range all to be displayed at the same height. Nothing in the prior art teaches or suggests this feature, and, therefore, claim 29 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom.

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
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Claim 30 has also been amended into independent form and defines that the alarmed parameters can each be moved to a special section. This may have special advantages in a system such as described above which has multiple different alarms being monitored. Specifically, once the operator notices the alarm, the operator can move it to the special group, thereby enabling them to notice new alarms without being distracted by the old alarm. The Bar Graph document teaches absolutely nothing about this feature.

Claim 41 teaches "displaying an indication of a percentage by which the parameter value exceeds said nominal range and approaches an alarm value". Nothing in the Bar Graph document teaches or suggests this feature. In fact, the Bar Graph document teaches a number of different techniques of display, each of which have been noted above. None of them teach or suggest the concept of nominal range and percentage by which a parameter exceeds nominal range. Therefore, each of these claims should be allowable.

Claim 56 should be allowable for similar reasons. Claim 56 specifies parameters that are within the nominal range having a nominal value on the display. None of the cited prior art in any way teaches or suggests this feature and specifically does not teach or suggest that values within a range all have the

Attorney Docket No. 06816-022002
Serial No.: 09/754,167
Amendment dated January 26, 2004
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same displayed value, as now claimed. Therefore, claim 56 should be allowable along with claims 57-66 which depend therefrom.

Claim 67 enables detecting rate of change and defines that the display displays "only parameters whose absolute value exceeds a first threshold whose rate of change value exceeds a second threshold.

As described above, nothing in the cited prior art teaches or suggests even the first of those two features, showing only parameters whose absolute value exceeds a first threshold. Therefore, claim 67 should be allowable along with the the claims which depend therefrom.

Claim 76 should be allowable for similar reasons.

Claim 80 specifies a first form of display which displays "information on values which differ from their nominal value without displaying the absolute values of said parameters". This claim should be allowable for reasons described above. Each of claims 82-89 should each be allowable for similar reasons.

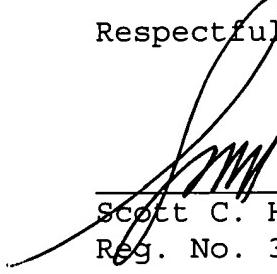
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Serial No.: 09/754,167
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Please apply the one month extension of time fee and any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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